

CIACO

NID 81 [REDACTED]

July 21, 1981

POLAND: Conclusion of Congress

The party congress ended yesterday but left controversial proposed changes in its statutes for a special national conference to resolve. [REDACTED]

The delegates gave tentative approval to a draft of the party statutes that provides for:

- Limiting party officials to two terms in office.
- The separation of top party and government posts--with the exception of the position of premier.
- General use of a secret ballot and multiple candidate slates. [REDACTED]

The changes do not go as far as some Poles had expected, but the special commission that will work out detailed election rules also may consider additional changes. Although no date has been set for the national conference, it seems likely that it will convene within six months to a year. Party leader Kania may have sought a delay in the hope that support for radical changes would wane in the intervening months. [REDACTED]

Approved for Release
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